

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving content from a distribution network;

receiving a command at a viewer appliance ~~and an identifier of a viewer who generated the command~~;

establishing communication from ~~[[a]]~~ the viewer appliance to a remotely located component;

when the command is a channel change at ~~[[a]]~~ the viewer appliance, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component for remote execution to a new stream of programming;

when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:

immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; ~~[[and]]~~

executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

sending an indication that the command has been executed.

2. (Cancel)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting the content at the viewer appliance.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising matching the command to a present context.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising concurrently forwarding the matching to the remotely located component.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising determining a result of the command and concurrently forwarding the result to the remotely located component.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the viewer appliance comprises a set-top box.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating targeted advertising.
9. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving the content at a viewer appliance;

establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component;

receiving a command at the viewer appliance;

~~time stamping the command with a time of receipt;~~

~~receiving an identifier of the viewer who generated the command;~~

when the command is a channel change, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component ~~a central switch~~ for remote execution to a new stream of programming; [[and]]

when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:

immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; [[and]]

executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and
sending an indication that the command has been executed at the viewer appliance.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising selecting a volume.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising establishing a broadband connection from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising matching the command to a present context.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising matching the command to a current time when the command is received.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining a result of the command.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising determining an audio format.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein receiving the command at the viewer appliance comprises receiving the command at a set-top box.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising choosing content based upon the command.
18. (Currently Amended) A system for capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

a processor executing instructions stored in memory that cause the processor to:

receive the content from a distribution network;

establish communication with a remotely located component;

receive a command from ~~and an identifier of~~ a viewer who generated the command;

when the command is a channel change, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forward the command to a central switch for remote execution to a new stream of programming;

when the command is not the channel change, then eliminate local storage of the command in the memory by performing in parallel:

immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command to the remotely located component; [[and]]

executing the command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

send an indication that the command has been executed.

19. (Cancel)
20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor and memory operate in a set top box.
21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to determine a result of the command.
22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to store a result of the command.
23. (Cancel)

24. (Cancel)
25. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:
- receiving the content from a distribution network at a viewer appliance;
 - establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component;
 - receiving a command at the viewer appliance ~~from and an identifier of~~ a viewer who generated the command;
 - when the command is a channel change at the viewer appliance, then immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to a central switch for remote execution to a new stream of programming;
 - when the command is not the channel change, then eliminating local storage of the command at the viewer appliance by performing in parallel:
 - immediately upon receipt concurrently forwarding the command from the viewer appliance to the remotely located component; [[and]]
 - executing the command ~~to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer;~~ and
 - sending an indication that the command has been executed.
26. (Cancel)
27. (Cancel)
28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising matching the command to a present context.
29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, further comprising determining a result of the command relative to the present context.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising generating targeted advertising based upon information related to the command.
31. (Cancel)
32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising concurrently forwarding the command as a control message.